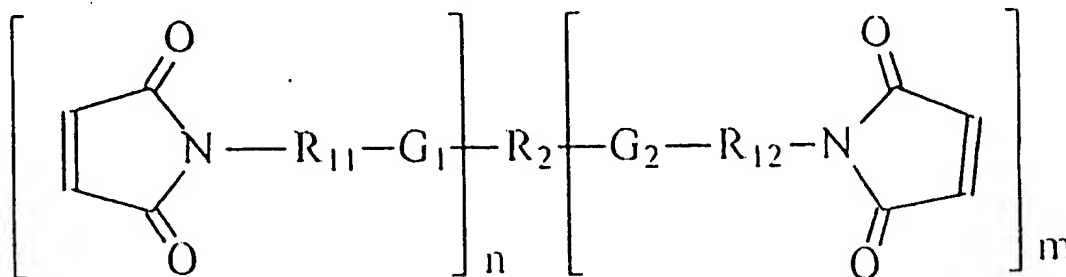


What is Claimed:

1. An actinic radiation curable printing ink or coating comprising an active single phase water compatible actinic radiation curable composition of a water compatible non-emulsion, non-dispersing compound water, and a maleimide derivative of the formula:



wherein n and m each independently represent an integer of 1 to 5, and the total of m and n is 6 or smaller;

R_{11} and R_{12} each independently represent a linking group selected from the group consisting of an alkylene group, an alicyclic group, an arylalkylene group, and a cycloalkylalkylene group;

G_1 and G_2 each represent an ester linkage selected from the group consisting of $-\text{COO}$ and $-\text{OCO}-$;

and R_2 represents a linking chain having an average molecular weight of 100 to 100,000 selected from the group consisting of a (poly)ether or (poly)ester linking chain, in which at least one organic group consists of a group or groups selected from a straight or branched chain alkylene group, an alkylene group having a hydroxyl group, an alicyclic group, an aryl group, an arylalkylene group, and a cycloalkylalkylene group connected via at least one linkage selected from the group consisting of an ether or ester linkage.